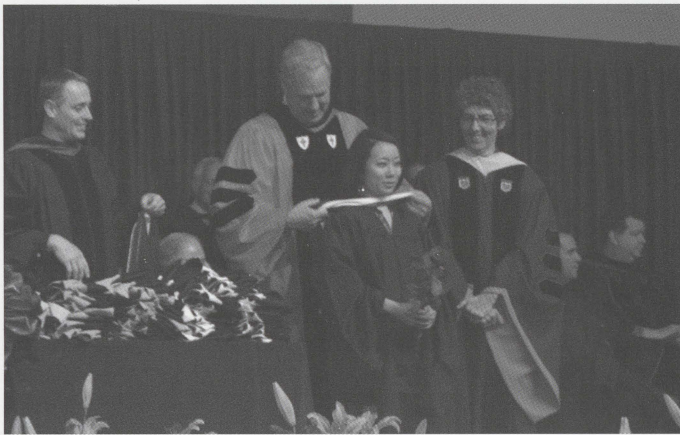
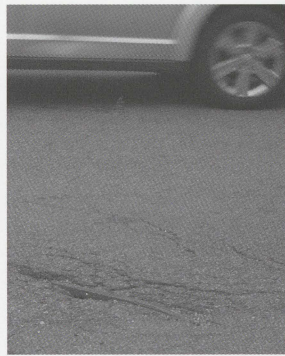


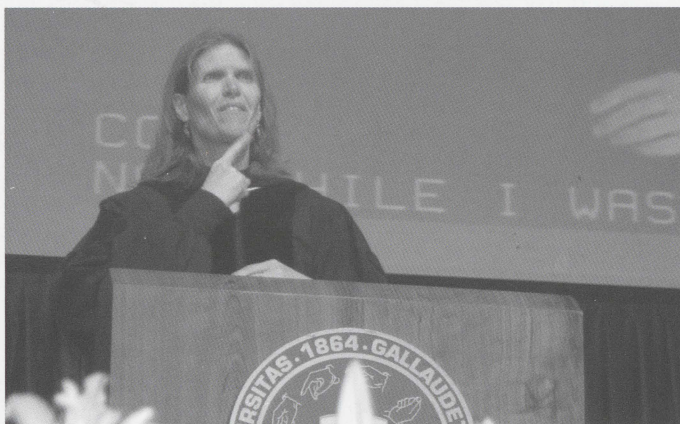
Gallaudet Fact—

Q. What does this picture, taken a few yards outside campus, depict?

Answer on page 4.



Deaf Studies professor Benjamin Bahan hoods master's degree recipient Natsumi Kanno during the Graduate Awards and Hooding Ceremony. The May 13 event celebrated the nearly 110 graduates who received master of arts, master of social work, master of science, doctor of philosophy, and doctor of audiology degrees this year.



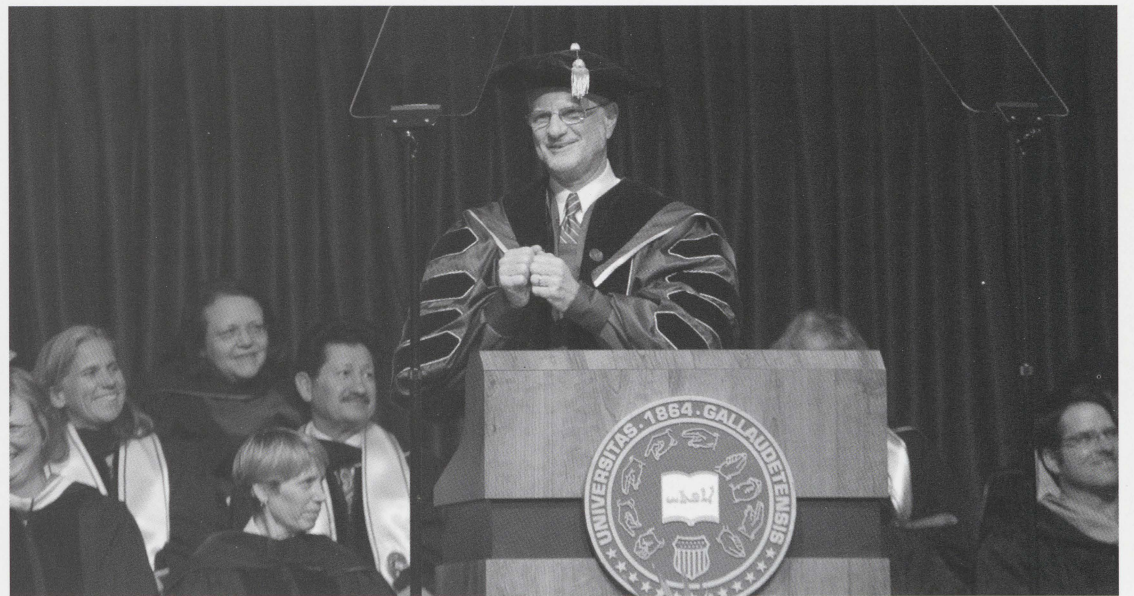
Tiffany Williams-Granfors, a member of the Board of Trustees, gives the address at the Hooding exercises. Williams-Granfors is a 1989 alumna and the chief executive officer for the International Committee on Sports for the Deaf, which oversees the World Deaflympics. She shared that she has confronted her share of oppression, but also has marveled at the ingenuity, spirit, and warmth of deaf and hard of hearing people around the world. She encouraged the graduates to always do their best—not in pursuit of fame or fortune, but with the goals of giving back and finding true happiness. She also told the graduates to “believe in yourself... and convince others to believe in you.”

See footage of the ceremony at: atweb.gallaudet.edu/videoevent/2010/hooding.



President T. Alan Hurwitz and Provost Stephen Weiner recognize Academic Affairs faculty and staff retiring between August 2009 and August 2010 at a May 4 reception. Pictured (from second left) are: Glenda Mobley (Graduate School and Professional Programs, 16 years), Dr. Ann Graziadei (Physical Education and Recreation, 25 years), Dr. Frank Zieziula (Counseling, 32 years), Dr. John Christiansen (Sociology, 32 years), Lynne Payne (Government and History, 32 years), Janne Harrelson (Professional Studies and Outreach, 31 years), Dr. Gina Oliva (Physical Education and Recreation, 36 years), Jane Rutherford (Library, 29 years), and Nancy Goodman (Financial Aid, 30 years). [Also retiring, but not pictured, are: Dr. Jane Hurst, (Philosophy and Religion, 28 years), Dr. Ellen Loughran (Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, 22 years), Eileen Matthews (Diversity and Equity for Students, 27 years), Dr. John Miller (English, 35 years), Dr. Edna Sayers (English, 19 years), Judith Termini (Freshman Studies, 35 years), and Dr. Lillian Tompkins (Education, 33 years).]

On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff
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Dr. T. Alan Hurwitz describes his delight in working with the Gallaudet community and learning more about its rich heritage during his May 12 Inauguration as the University's tenth president.

Dr. Hurwitz inaugurated as president in jubilant ceremony

Dr. T. Alan Hurwitz accepted the presidency of Gallaudet at a May 12 Inauguration ceremony, pledging to lead the University toward achieving “a natural balance” between its cherished heritage and changes that will be required to guarantee a bright and promising future.

Board of Trustees Chair Benjamin Soukup, assisted by trustees Tom Humphries and Nancy Kelly-Jones, installed Hurwitz as Gallaudet's 10th president. “Dr. Hurwitz, your Gallaudet family wishes you every success,” said Dr. Soukup, who presented the new president a framed copy of the University's charter, signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1864. “Please know we share your

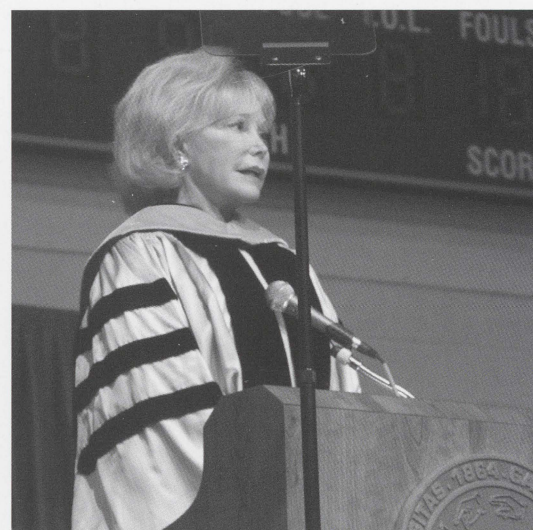
sense of purpose for Gallaudet and will work with you to help you achieve it.”

Dr. Barbara White, 2009 Distinguished Faculty Member, introduced Hurwitz as a seasoned leader with a “lifelong passion” for shattering barriers for deaf and hard of hearing people. She recognized him as a “collaborative leader” with an “enormous capacity for work.”

In his formal acceptance of the presidency he has held since January, Hurwitz said that although he is new to Gallaudet, the University “is not new to me.” He spoke of his many interactions with the Gallaudet community over the years, and the close friendships he has developed. Addressing the

continued on page 5

‘The bottom line is: We need you,’ Maryland state superintendent of schools tells graduates



Maryland State Superintendent of Schools Nancy Grasmick delivers the 2010 Commencement address.

them the necessary foundation “to prepare you for life.”

Former faculty members who contributed significantly to building that foundation of academic excellence were granted professor emeriti status: Dr. Donald Ammons, a professor in the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures; Dr. Barbara Bodner-Johnson, a professor in the Department of Education; and Dr. Thomas Jones, a professor in the Department of Education—all of whom retired in 2008—and the late Dr. Judith Johnson, a professor in the Department of Education, who retired in 2005. Hurwitz introduced this year's recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award, Dr. Roger Beach, chair of the Counseling Department.

Dr. Nancy Grasmick and Dr. Robert Sanderson, whose careers have brought distinction to themselves, to Gallaudet, and to the deaf community, received honorary doctorate degrees. Grasmick, Maryland's state superintendent of schools—the first female to hold this position in Maryland—and a member of the University's Class of 1965, received an honorary doctor of laws degree. She also delivered the Commencement address. Sanderson, a notable leader in the deaf community who served many years with the Utah Division of Rehabilitation Services—his last 20 years as director of state programs for the deaf—a member of Gallaudet's Class of 1941, and a

continued on page 6

President T. Alan Hurwitz presided over his first Gallaudet Commencement on May 14, where he recognized the more than 300 members of the Class of 2010.

“Graduates, you honor yourselves and all of us shine in the reflected glow of your accomplishments,” said Dr. Hurwitz. He added that whatever uncertainties the future holds, the University's newest alumni can enter the next phase of their lives with the assurance that Gallaudet has given

Dr. Soukup informs community about new dorm, other news from May Board of Trustees meeting

(Board of Trustees Chair Benjamin Soukup emailed the following report to the campus community on May 20.)

Dear Campus Community,

Visiting Kendall Green is always an enjoyable occasion for the Board of Trustees, particularly for the May meeting, where we have the opportunity to share in the excitement of Commencement, and to meet many of you. Our time on campus last week was especially memorable, since we had the honor of inaugurating our 10th president, Dr. T. Alan Hurwitz. This festive ceremony was a fitting tribute to this great leader, and the trustees consider it a privilege to have taken part in this historic occasion.

It is my great pleasure to share more exciting news with you: the Board of Trustees at its May 14 business meeting approved construction of a five-story, 175-bed residence hall on the site of the former Mary Thornberry Building. Construction bids for the project will be solicited early next year, and ground will be broken next spring.

Trustee Richard Kinney, chair of the board's Committee on Financial and Institutional Affairs (FIA), announced the new residence hall project, stating, "We are looking forward to attending the ribbon cutting ceremony in the fall of 2012!" I'm sure I speak for the rest of the board members when I say that I share Mr. Kinney's enthusiasm.

The new residence hall will address a predicted shortage of student housing at the University. Projections indicate that if current enrollment trends hold true, demand for residence living on campus could exceed current capacity by the fall of 2012, when we envision completion of the 60,000 square-foot building. At this time, we expect the new facility will accommodate freshmen, but a change in enrollment demographics could affect the residential makeup.

The project is estimated to cost between \$17.5 million and \$18.5 million. The trustees passed a resolution at the business meeting authorizing the University to seek financing for this and other campus construction projects. The resolution gives Gallaudet flexibility to explore various financing options. The board also approved a nine percent increase in room fees each year from 2012 through 2017 to help fund the project.

This new residence hall supports Goal B of the University's Strategic Plan to increase undergraduate student enrollment and retention. Specifically, one of the strategies in reaching this goal is to "upgrade physical infrastructure (primarily dormitories) to meet 21st Century student expectations for quality of campus life."

The board's approval of the residence hall follows a one-year study by a project team consisting of Vice President for Administration and Finance Paul Kelly, Executive Director of Program Development Fred Weiner, Dean of Student Affairs Dwight Benedict, Director of Campus Design and Planning Hansel Bauman, Director of

Campus Life Susan Hanrahan, Campus Life Program Manager Travis Imel, and Department of Business faculty member Sam Swiller, with ongoing input by trustees serving on the FIA committee, and consultants from Brailsford and Dunlavey, a facilities planning firm.

The study began with a two-day, campus-wide workshop hosted by the Office of Campus Design and Planning to explore the role of campus life in students' overall learning experience. During this workshop, students, faculty, staff, and alumni envisioned a "living and learning" concept for student housing that integrates the activities and spaces where students live, learn, and socialize to enrich the overall learning experience.

Plans that were drawn up as a result of this workshop call for a mix of shared uses on the ground floor dedicated to social interaction, student organizations, and academic programs. Each of the residential floors will feature suite style units accessed through commons areas and study spaces that are also designed to facilitate social and academic interaction. This rich environment is intended to make the Gallaudet experience even more fulfilling.

The Denison House project that is now in progress will provide an early glimpse of the living and learning concept in action when it opens this fall to a diverse group of 10 students and faculty in residence.

I would also like to summarize for you a number of other important matters that the Board of Trustees addressed at our business meeting:

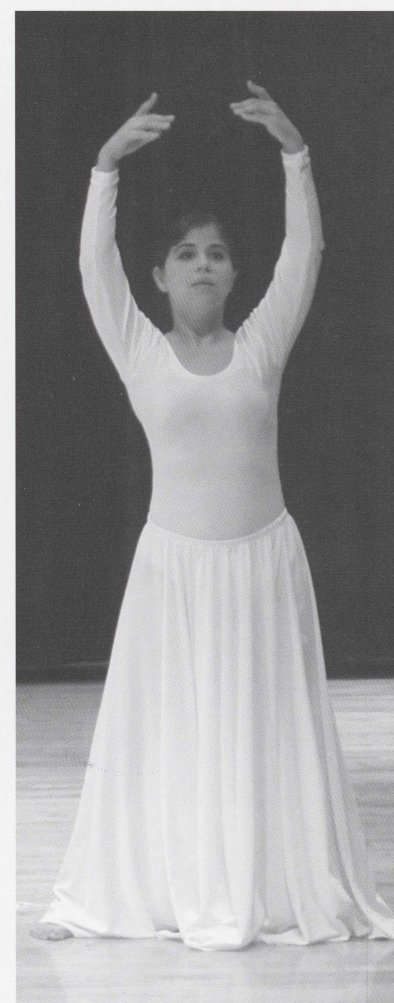
- Reappointed six board members to new three-year terms—Jorge Diaz-Herrera, Jeff Hummer, Richard Kinney, Richard Ladner, James Macfadden, and myself. I would like to note that this is my fourth and final term on the board.
- Approved new academic programs—an adult degree program, an online Liberal Studies program, a B.A. in International Studies, a B.S. in Information Technology, and a Ph.D. in Interpreting.
- Approved the grant of continuous tenure to the following faculty members—Amy Stevens (General Studies), Frances Marquez (Government and History), Ethan Sinnott (Theatre Arts), Linda Lytle (Counseling), Cheryl Wu (Counseling), Diane Clark (Educational Foundations and Research), and Paul Dudis (Linguistics).
- Received a report from Clerc Center Vice President Ed Bosso on the significant progress the Clerc Center has made towards implementing its strategic plan, its self-study accreditation process, and standards-based instruction in compliance with the No Child Left Behind Act. He also shared that the U.S. Department of Education recently conducted a site monitoring visit and was pleased with the work the Clerc Center is doing to meet the requirements of the Education of the Deaf Act.
- Approved two amendments to the *University Faculty Guidelines*—one

specifying the causes that could result in removal of tenured or non-tenured faculty, and including sanctions as an alternative to removal, depending on the circumstances; the other clarifying when a faculty member may appeal an adverse personnel action to the University Faculty Committee on Grievances.

- Agreed to hold a board retreat in July to discuss budget priorities for the University, restructuring board committees, and other important issues.
- Approved requesting a federal appropriation of \$160 million for fiscal year 2012, which is consistent with our appropriation requests in recent years. The board agreed to defer approval of the 2011 budget to the July retreat.
- Approved maintaining employee salaries at the present rate for fiscal year 2011.
- Approved three recommendations by the board's Audit Committee—changes to the committee's charter, approval of a charter for the management of advisory services, and approval of a new policy on identity theft protection in response to a new Federal Trade Commission Red Flag Rule requiring businesses and organizations to implement a program to detect, prevent, and mitigate instances of identity theft.
- Approved a resolution of appreciation to Frank Wu, who is stepping down as a trustee after sharing his wisdom and guidance with Gallaudet for 10 years—the past four years as vice chair.

Every year, a group of outstanding graduating students is invited to talk to the board's Committee on Student Affairs about their experiences at Gallaudet and their plans for the future. This year, we enjoyed very informative presentations from Alexander Abenchuchan, Krista Brown, Rachel Rose, and Jamal White. The committee agrees wholeheartedly that direct interaction such as this with our students is one of the most rewarding parts of the meeting, and we want to see this trend continue.

Finally, our new president took the opportunity to thank the board for the support extended to him and his wife, First Lady Vicki Hurwitz, during the past five months they have been on campus. He stated that he is "completely amazed" by the amount of work that everyone does, and added that he is "indeed inspired." I would like to add that the board shares President Hurwitz's sentiments about the work you do. We, too, are inspired by the "Gallaudet spirit" and the tireless efforts the community undertakes to make the University great. We pledge our continued commitment to Dr. Hurwitz to help him lead us to an even brighter future. ■



Psi Iota Xi selected Taylor Oliveira as its scholarship winner for 2010. Oliveira is a Gallaudet Dance Company member and dance minor who trained in dance at the Boston Arts Academy throughout high school. Oliveira's dream is to form a dance company for young deaf children and adults. Since 1994, the Psi Iota Xi organization has awarded one member of the Gallaudet Dance Company a scholarship each year. The scholarship winner must meet the following criteria: be a dancer in the Gallaudet Dance Company and loyal to the troupe; provide service to the Gallaudet Dance Company; have financial need; and have high academic standing. "Dance is like therapy to me," said Oliveira, who is considering a major in education or nursing. "It is a way for me to release all my tension and problems."

ON THE GREEN

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Roving Reporter

What is your favorite hot hangout spot near Gallaudet?



Aside from Israel Baptist Church, my favorite place is Colonel Brooks' Tavern [901 Monroe Street, NE]. I live, work, and attend church in this area, and I like to support local businesses. Colonel Brooks has great food and attracts a mix of people—students, professionals, and locals.

Martee Pitts, coordinator,
marketing and products, Clerc Center



My favorite spot is not a traditional 'hot' spot, but deserves some spotlight: the Arboretum. It's just a mile from campus, peaceful, and gorgeous. Perfect for a jog, stroll, or vegging out on a blanket.

Sam Swiller, instructor, Department of Business



SOVA on H Street at 13th Street NE—hands down! I even use SOVA for my students. They do their final class presentations using the large TV in the back room. Reservations are free! It's absolutely awesome.

Raychelle Harris, instructor,
ASL and Deaf Studies Program

Among Ourselves

Dr. Donna Mertens, professor in the Department of Educational Foundations and Research, presented "Research and evaluation paradigms: Alternative views of the world" to the Robert Wood Johnson Fellows at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pa., at the end of April. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Evaluation Fellowship program seeks to diversify the program evaluation field by providing individuals from underrepresented groups in evaluation and organizations that target underserved communities with the necessary skills and training to become program evaluators. Mertens used examples from her research and evaluation in the deaf community to illustrate strategies for being responsive to cultural and linguistic issues in evaluation.

Patricia Johnson, program support specialist in the Department of Psychology, received the Member of the Year Award from the Delaware-Maryland-District of Columbia Division of the International Association of Administrative Professionals at the 56th Annual Division Meeting Awards Banquet and Installation Ceremony in Hunt Valley, Md. on May 15. Johnson currently serves as the president of the Prince George's, Md. Chapter and also received the presidential Rising Star award and Outstanding Chapter President recognition.



Christina Healy (left) and **Page Roberts**, who graduated May 14 with master's degrees in linguistics, have been awarded Fulbright scholarships to continue their studies abroad. Healy will travel to Israel in August, where she will conduct cross-linguistic analysis research of ASL and Israeli Sign Language through June at the University of Haifa's Sign Language Research Lab. Roberts will teach English and American studies to high school students in Hamburg, Germany for the 2010-2011 school year. When she completes the Fulbright program, Healy plans to come back to Gallaudet, where she has been accepted into the Ph.D. in linguistics program. After graduating, she hopes to return home to Oregon and join the faculty in the interpreting program at Western Oregon University. When she returns from Germany, Roberts hopes to move back to Austin, Tex., and either work at the Texas School for the Deaf or continue her graduate studies in the speech-language pathology program at the University of Texas.

Clerc Center Happenings

Little green thumbs help Gallaudet's first lady plant vegetable garden



First Lady Vicki Hurwitz and KDES student Amelia Warren prepare a new plant for the House One vegetable garden while KDES student Yireh Sanchez looks on.

By Susan M. Flanigan

Gallaudet First Lady Vicki Hurwitz missed having a vegetable garden when she moved to House One from her home in Rochester, N.Y. Taking a cue from U.S. First Lady Michelle Obama, Hurwitz decided to create a vegetable garden at House One and invited KDES students to lend a hand.

"When I learned what Michelle [Obama] was doing with the children at the White House garden, I thought it was a wonderful idea. When we moved to House One and I saw how large the yard was, I thought, 'Why not have a vegetable garden and have the kids

involved?'" said Hurwitz. "I talked with Trudy Haselhuhn [horticultural specialist for Grounds Services] about making a vegetable garden, and she was enthusiastic about the idea and knew the perfect place to make it ready for us."

The idea for the garden quickly took root. Hurwitz visited KDES first and second graders in their classroom on May 3. The students engaged in a lively discussion about vegetables, listing what they liked and did not like, and made suggestions for what to plant in the House One garden.

The students, along with their teachers and KDES principal Nancy Berrigan, arrived the next day ready to start digging. Haselhuhn had prepared the planting beds with organic soil. The children planted tomatoes, bell peppers, white corn, zucchini, cucumber, and pumpkins. Hurwitz remarked after the planting, "They're brilliant! I loved their enthusiasm in both asking and answering questions ... I was so impressed with their answers! And wow, they were enthusiastic with helping with the planting and wanting to do more."

Hurwitz plans to take pictures up until the end of the school year of the plants as they grow so that the students can see the results, and may also have the students over again before school lets out. "I would also like to make this an annual project as long as we live here," said Hurwitz. "Who knows, it may produce some other projects or ideas over the years." The Hurwitzes also plan to have the KDES students visit in the fall to pick the pumpkins they planted as part of a Halloween event. ■

'Gallaudet and the Community Evolving Together' topic of Charter Day

"Gallaudet and the Community Evolving Together" was the main topic of the 41st annual Charter Day Brunch and Awards Program, held April 17 at Peikoff Alumni House ("Ole Jim").

Charter Day festivities were kicked off on April 8—the official date of Charter Day—by the Laurent Clerc Cultural Fund (LCCF) committee of the Gallaudet University Alumni Association with a celebration of Gallaudet's birthday and the signing of the charter by President Lincoln 146 years ago. The LCCF served birthday cake to students, faculty, and staff during lunchtime in the Marketplace at Jordan Student Academic Center, and LCCF members Hillel Goldberg and Gene Mirus gave a brief history on the purpose of Charter Day.

Award recipients who had been selected for their outstanding work to benefit the deaf community were interviewed by their hosts on April 16 about their accomplishments. The hosts were members of the LCCF committee who greeted the recipients when they arrived on campus. President T. Alan Hurwitz and First Lady Vicki Hurwitz graciously opened House One to the award recipients, their partners, LCCF members, Alumni Relations staff, and others for a barbecue that evening. The Charter Day barbecue has become a tradition that began with former President Robert Davila during his time in office. After dinner, Dr. Hurwitz and Vicki Hurwitz gave a tour of House One, and added their personal experiences on living there the past few months. The Hurwitzes were clearly delighted to be able to give this tour and were wonderful tour guides.

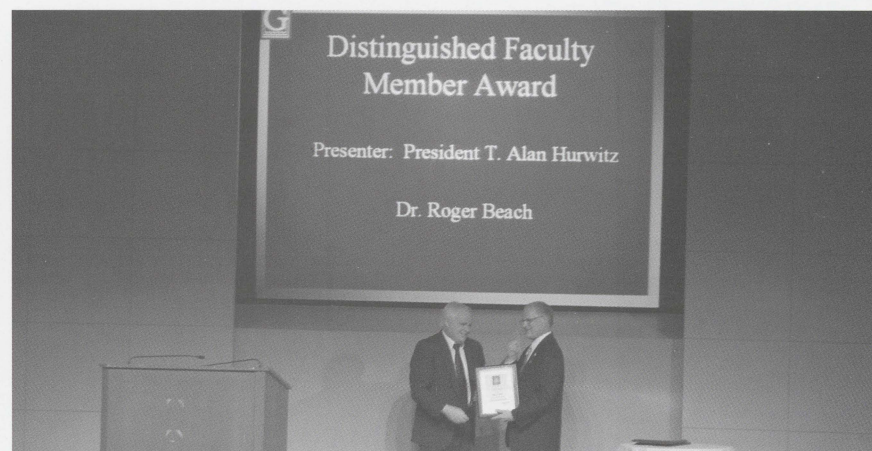
The awards and brunch program, with Fred Beam as master of ceremonies, drew over 100 people. The honorees were: Lynn Ray Boren, '96, who has established sports camps for deaf youth across the United States; Dr. Robert Davila, '53, former president of Gallaudet, who has numerous achieve-

ments, including helping lead Gallaudet through one of its most challenging times; Stephen Hamerdinger, G-'89, an advocate who has brought attention at the state and national levels to mental health services for deaf people in Alabama; Dr. Barbara Kannapell, '61, for her accomplishments in promoting bilingual education for deaf people; Melanie Paul, '74, a lifelong advocate for people with disabilities who has blended her love for reading and using therapy dogs to help people; and Charles Wildbank, a deaf artist whose artwork was commissioned by the Cunard Cruise Line for the luxury ocean liner Queen Mary, for achieving notable excellence in a professional field not related to deafness.

The table centerpieces had pictures of the evolving neighborhoods surrounding Gallaudet, many of which are becoming a popular choice among young professionals looking for place to live in Washington, D.C. There were murals explaining the vision of how the community will look in the year 2020. All of this was done with a purpose: The special guest speaker, who talked about the future of Gallaudet and the community was Fred Weiner, '88. Weiner's audience was fascinated by his description of the work he has done with community organizers in advocating for a vibrant neighborhood around Gallaudet. His presentation included a film on the development of the nearby area known as NOMA (North of Massachusetts Avenue).

Students played important roles in the festivities. For the third year, students from a parliamentary procedure class taught by Robert Weinstock researched and wrote the citations honoring the winners.

To read more about the award winners, their citations, and their achievements, go to tinyURL.com/CharterDayAwards. ■



ABOVE: President Hurwitz presents the Distinguished Faculty Member Award to Dr. Roger Beach, chair of the Department of Counseling, at the University's Undergraduate Awards Ceremony on April 20. This annual event recognizes the academic, creative, service, and leadership excellence of Gallaudet students, faculty, and staff. For a complete list of award recipients, go to:

aaweb.gallaudet.edu/documents/Provost/GallaudetAwardsDayWinnersList2010.pdf. BELOW: Blair Rasmus (left), *Tower Clock* editor-in-chief, and Kent Turner (not pictured), assistant editor-in-chief, congratulate this year's *Tower Clock* Award recipients, Dr. MJ Bienvu (second from left), associate professor and ASL B.A. coordinator in the ASL and Deaf Studies Program, and Sherry Duhon, Academic Bowl coordinator in the College of Professional Studies and Outreach, on April 27, Yearbook Day.



Gallaudet Fact—

Answer: The photo shows old streetcar rails from decades ago coming up through the pavement outside the 8th Street gate. The blog *Greater Greater Washington* noted the little piece of history poking through the street as construction continues for a new streetcar line on nearby H Street, NE. Though discontinued almost 50 years ago, D.C.'s streetcar service is slated to return soon, starting with Anacostia and H Street lines in fall 2012. The Florida Avenue/U Street corridor will see new tracks in Phase 2 of the District Department of Transportation plan.

Bison Roundup

Student-athletes, coaches and managers graduate

The Class of 2010 included 18 Bison student-athletes and several coaches and team managers who received their degrees at the May 14 Commencement exercises.

The football team led the way with seven graduates, and the women's basketball and men's and women's swimming program each had three. The group comprises confirmed student-athletes, coaches, and managers who were on an active athletic roster during the 2009-10 season. The Athletics Department also congratulates former student-athletes who completed their degrees.

Women's basketball coach Kevin Cook received his master's degree along with his graduate assistant, Bridget Catanese. Women's swimming assistant coach Leah Geer also received a master's degree. Cook guided the Bison team to its best season in a decade, as Gallaudet won 14 games and made the Capital Athletic Conference tournament. Cook became the 25th recipient of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association's (WBCA) Carol Eckman Award that is presented annually to an active WBCA coach who exemplifies Eckman's spirit, integrity, and character through sportsmanship, commitment to the student-athlete, honesty, ethical behavior, courage, and dedication to purpose. Cook is only the second Division III coach to be honored since the award's inception in 1986.

Two-time all-conference volleyball libero Shana Lehmann stars among the undergraduate list of student-athletes, assistant coaches, and managers. Lehmann was recently named the Gallaudet Student-Athlete of the Year alongside women's basketball junior standout Easter Faafiti. Lehmann also earned five awards at the Athletics Department ceremony on May 3.

For a full list of athletics graduates, go to gallaudetathletics.com/news/2009-10/commencement. ■



The Gallaudet chapter of the Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society celebrated its tenth anniversary at an April 8 induction ceremony in the SLCC Atrium. Dr. Lillie Ransom (front row, third from left), associate professor in the Communication Studies Department and faculty advisor, is shown congratulating this year's inductees (from left): front row—Justine Jeter, Angela Vasquez, Bregitt Jimenez; second row—Michael Pachuiro, Ricky Alewine, Jillian Gruetzner, Phyllis Steele, and Daniel DiDonna.



(Clockwise from top left): Claudia Gordon, special assistant to the director of the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, delivers a greeting during the May 12 Inauguration, saying that President Hurwitz has "an amazing ability to bring diverse people together." KDES students sign "The Star-Spangled Banner." Gallaudet community members carry the flags of all U.S. states and territories and 52 countries through the Field House at the beginning of the ceremony. Dr. Patricia McGuire, president of Trinity Washington University and a member of the Board of Directors of the Washington Metropolitan Consortium of Universities, adds her greetings and fond wishes for Gallaudet's new president.



Inauguration

continued from page 1

members of the Gallaudet community in the audience, he said he has come to realize that "the Gallaudet heritage is at the center of your love for the University." This heritage encompasses Gallaudet's bilingual mission, its visual learning environment, its advocacy for American Sign Language, and its love of deaf culture and history. He compared this rich heritage to a lens that looks deeply into the very essence of the University, a kaleidoscope that reveals a plethora of perspectives on issues, a magnifying glass that provides an up-close focus on even the finest subtleties of its proud tradition, and a telescope that he said "allows us to see and reach for the stars. ... We can have our dreams. They can come true."

Hurwitz's remarks were preceded by a moving video tribute by student-run Bison TV, and a video montage prepared by Academic Technology's Video Services of the Hurwitz family through the years. The montage included many photos of the couple's children, Bernard and Stephanie, both of whom were present for the ceremony, along with many other family members.

First Lady Vicki Hurwitz also received ample praise during the ceremony. White said to Mrs. Hurwitz, "You will leave your own mark on Gallaudet's history." She said the First Lady has already been "a busy and gracious hostess" at House One, and she has given numerous presentations on women's leadership and undertaken research on the famous Edward Miner Gallaudet residence.

The program overall was infused with a jubilant air. It began on a festive note with an academic procession, and students carrying the flags of 52 countries and every U.S. state, territory, and the District of Columbia—a dramatic repre-

sentation of the diverse campus community—circling the Field House gymnasium.

Soukup acknowledged the many individuals who served on the Presidential Search Advisory Committee, the Presidential Transition Advisory Committee, and Presidential Inauguration Planning Committee, thanking them for their work on a successful and inclusive presidential selection and transition, and for creating a fitting tribute to Hurwitz. Soukup also welcomed the business, educational, organizational, and government leaders who were on hand to witness this special day in Gallaudet's history.

Representatives of University and Clerc Center constituencies—students, faculty, teachers, staff, alumni, and Board of Associates—paid tribute to President Hurwitz for his proven track record of leadership, and promised their support to help ensure Gallaudet's ongoing success under his guidance. Others who offered congratulations and best wishes to Gallaudet's 10th president included Senator Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), a long-standing friend of the University; Dr. Patricia McGuire, president of Trinity Washington University and a member of the Board of Directors of the Washington Metropolitan Consortium of Universities, which Gallaudet belongs to; and Claudia Gordon, special assistant to the director of the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs.


Harkin, whose comments came via video presentation, lamented that his work in the Senate prevented him from being present for the ceremony. He remarked that his brother and Hurwitz's father were schoolmates at the Iowa School for the Deaf. Harkin called Hurwitz "a truly distinguished academic leader," but noted that he "is not an

ivory tower academic. He loves people, he puts students first, and he has a vision for expanding the very important mission of Gallaudet University." Harkin noted that this year is also the 20th anniversary of the milestone Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which he sponsored. Although the ADA has made significant gains in accessibility and opportunities for people with disabilities, Harkin said much more needs to be done. "I am counting on Gallaudet and its excellent new leader to help us reach these goals," he said.

McGuire said "Gallaudet's mission and values are unique and irreplaceable," and therefore an integral part of the Washington Consortium, which includes "a remarkable group of universities founded ... to provide access to higher education for historically marginalized populations." She called President Hurwitz "a beacon of hope for the entire

community of Gallaudet University," and she said it is her wish that he will be "a tireless advocate for the resources and public support that this University needs to grow even more prominent as the world's leading university for the deaf and hard of hearing."

Gordon has known the Hurwitzes for several years through their support of National Black Deaf Advocates, Inc., and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf's National Advisory Group. Knowing Dr. Hurwitz as a "persistent and persuasive leader" with "an amazing ability to bring diverse people together," Gordon said she is "excited at all the possibilities that lie ahead for the D.C. area's deaf and hard of hearing community with Alan at the helm of Gallaudet."

See footage of the Inauguration at: atweb.gallaudet.edu/videoevent/2010/inauguration. 



Student Leah Katz-Hernandez introduces her class' presentation on immigration views during the May 4 event "Students and U.S. Immigration Policy." The class presentation was based on the study "Attitudes of Gallaudet University Students on Immigration," which the students conducted in the GOV 493: "Senior Seminar" course, taught by assistant professor of government Frances Marquez. Prior to the presentation, Gaby Pacheco and Juan Rodriguez, Miami Dade Community College students who walked a 1,500-mile "Trail of Dreams" from Florida to Washington, D.C., talked about their experiences as undocumented immigrants seeking higher education and their efforts to support the DREAM Act.



Commencement

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trustee emeritus, received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree.

Grasmick told the Class of 2010 that she, like them, “spent some of my formative years here at Gallaudet” and that her education at the University “served as a springboard for everything I have done since that time.” While commending the graduates for completing their degree requirements at “this outstanding institution,” Grasmick cautioned that there are many challenges ahead: “Trust us, your work has just begun,” she said.

Grasmick spoke of how globalization and technology are radically changing the landscape of higher education and 21st-century careers. The nation’s colleges and universities must prepare students for a highly competitive world in which the U.S. is no longer the global leader it once was. To remain a viable player in the economic race, America needs to strengthen its workforce. “We need to invest in human capital. We need the best minds. The bottom line is: We need you,” said Grasmick, and she expressed her confidence that Gallaudet graduates are up to the task.

“The contributions of this university can’t be understated. Today, I celebrate your accomplishments. I see no limits. I see no ceiling. Never settle for second best. Never settle at all. Say to yourself, ‘This is my beginning.’”

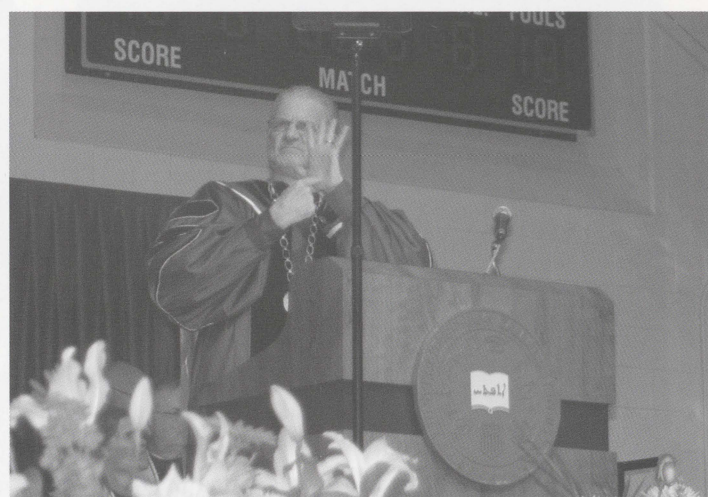
This year’s student speakers were undergraduate Taiyabah Naeem, a one-time high school dropout who graduated with degrees in biology and chemistry, University Honors, and a 4.0 GPA, and Christen Szymanski, a clinical psychology Ph.D. candidate whose dissertation looked at the characteristics and symptomatology of autism in deaf and hard of hearing children.

Naeem recalled that when she was a high school junior with ambitions of being a scientist, her dreams were almost crushed when one of her teachers told her she had no chance of succeeding and shouldn’t be in school. She was so discouraged that she left school temporarily, but her strong will would not permit her to be defeated. Her confidence was restored when she enrolled at Gallaudet and was mentored by science teachers who recognized her potential and encouraged her to pursue a career in the field. “For many of us, Gallaudet was the first place where we could dare to dream,” she said. “It shaped me into who I am today: ... a deaf woman of color who is a scientist!”

Szymanski spoke on the virtues of patience, saying that her experiences as a student proved time and time again that even when faced with the most daunting challenges, where defeat seems imminent, things have a way of resolving themselves. “Your experiences at Gallaudet have shaped who you are in more ways than you might ever know,” she added. “Your experiences at Gallaudet will empower you to take on new challenges and face old ones.”

Board of Trustees Chair Benjamin Soukup and Gallaudet University Alumni Association President Alyce Slater Reynolds congratulated the graduates on reaching this milestone in their lives and reminded them that as alumni they have an important role to fill as ambassadors of the University. Gallaudet’s reputation is built on the contributions of its alumni, said Dr. Soukup. “Ensure this tradition continues,” he said. “Whatever you do, wherever you go, you are a member of a very select group.”

See footage of the Commencement exercises at: atweb.gallaudet.edu/videoevent/2010/commencement. ■



Clockwise from top left: Graduates Kristy Vess and Rachel Blake show their gratitude for family support following the May 14 Commencement exercises; graduate Hector Reynoso carries his daughter, Shakira, outside the Field House; President Hurwitz greets the Class of 2010 and the graduates’ many friends and supporters; undergraduate speaker Taiyabah Naeem cheers for her fellow graduates; graduate student speaker Christen Szymanski addresses the Commencement audience; graduates Natsumi Kanno (third from left), Olatokunbo Ogunbayo (fourth from right) and Nancy Lynn Dillon (second from right) pose for a photo with friends.

